

Youth Resource Connections

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Headlines

U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Announces Jobs Program for Students with Disabilities Exceed 2003 Totals.

June 17 News Release

"**WASHINGTON**—A three-month-old jobs program that places college students with disabilities in summer employment has already exceeded last year's placement totals, U.S. Labor Secretary Elaine Chao announced today."

"The Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) gives many students with disabilities the break they need to launch successful careers. They acquire valuable work experience, gain confidence, and make important job connections," Secretary Chao said. "The WRP also fulfills President Bush's **New Freedom Initiative** pledge to promote employment opportunities throughout the nation for people with disabilities."

For more information visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/odep/ODEP20041083.htm>.

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration Publishes Annual Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for 2004. ETA has published the Secretary of Labor's annual LLSIL under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. The Secretary of Labor annually determines the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for uses described in the Law. The LLSIL is available in the June 25 Federal Register at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/06jun20041800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-14430.pdf>.

Employment and Training Administration Announces Workforce³ Web – Based Tool.

ETA's Assistant Secretary Emily DeRocco announced the launch of the Workforce³ One webspace designed to promote the objectives of the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative. For more information visit: <http://www.workforce3one.org/>.

U.S. Department of Labor's, Office of Youth Services will host Second Annual Youth Career Skills Challenge Event July 26 – 30. The Skills Challenge will allow Youth Opportunity Grant (YOG) participants to test their academic and employment skills for national recognition. YOG participants will also attend workshops about high-growth industries; participate in a career fair and other educational events. Contact: Anne Stom (202) 693-3377; stom.anne@dol.gov

Funding Opportunities

U.S. Secretary of Labor Chao Announces Launch of \$17.2 Million National Biotechnology Training Initiative. The grants will fund solutions to address the skills needs and workforce challenges facing the biotechnology industry. The Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse (PLSG), awarded \$2.4 million, is the first recipient of a series of grants "designed to increase awareness about promising biotechnology-related careers, address the need for skilled workers in the industry and provide jobs for workers." Key PLSG project partners include Renal Solutions Inc. of Pittsburgh, Pa., the Community College of Allegheny County, the Pittsburgh Technology Council, the Allegheny County Workforce Investment Board and the Allegheny County Job Link. For more information visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20041004.htm>.

U.S. Secretary of Labor Chao Announces \$2.25 million grant to train workers for Careers in High growth Retail Industry. Secretary Chao announced funding opportunities to train retail industry workers as part of the High Growth Job Training Initiative. The National Retail Federation Foundation will administer the grant. Funds will be used to provide necessary training and skills upgrades for workers in the retail industry. For additional information visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20041009.htm>.

U.S. Secretary Chao Announces \$1.5 Million Grant Aimed at Ending Chronic Homeless Among People with Disabilities. The grants will strengthen customized employment and permanent housing services for persons with disabilities. The Chronic Homeless Employment Technical Assistance initiative is designed to provide intensive employment-related technical assistance to the five September 2003 awardees. For additional information about the grant application contact: (202) 693-4570 or see June 10 Federal register at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/06jun20041800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-13116.pdf>.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Announced Funds for Research and Education Projects. The USDA announced \$1,155,756 in federal grants to 14 organizations for our nation's urban and community forests. The grants fund projects in four categories: urban and community forestry for underserved population, prompting livable communities, communication programs, and research and technology development. The full announcement may be accessed at: <http://www.usda.gov/Newsroom/0241.04.html>.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Announces Grant Opportunities to Serve Families and Youth with Developmental Disabilities. HHS has announced a grant funding opportunity under its "projects for Family Support 360" and Information Referral Centers for Youth with Developmental Disabilities. Anticipated total funding under this competitive grant announcement is \$7,250,000. Applications are due August 2 with the "Letters of Intent" due July 2. The June 17 Federal Register provides full background, details partnership requirements, and outlines the application submission requirements. Visit: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/06jun20041800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-13509.pdf>.

Beaumont Foundation of America Announces New Technology Grant Program. The Beaumont Foundation of America has established the Community and Individual Pilot Program (CIPP) to identify and develop successful programs to address the needs of groups with special or unique challenges. Organizations with 501(c)(3) status, hospitals, and government agencies serving at least 50 percent or more individuals at or below the poverty level are eligible to apply. For more information and to register visit: <http://www.bmtfoundation.com/bfa/us/public/>.

Deadline: July 30.

Award Opportunities

Keep America Beautiful, Inc., Announces Graffiti Hurts National Awards Program. Keep America Beautiful, Inc. is accepting applications to recognize programs that are bringing innovative and effective practices to erase graffiti vandalism. Winning programs will receive a \$2,000 cash award and national recognition. Local governments, police departments, youth groups, crime prevention organizations are eligible to apply. For more information visit: <http://www.kab.org/Programs.asp?id=49&rid=74>. **Deadline: September 15.**

Publications

National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC) Second Edition Education Development Network (EDNet) Resource Tool. The NYEC EDNet resource tool, which was developed to identify criteria of effective practice and self-assessment has been updated. New features of the resource tool include an updated resources section and information on linkage to Promising and Effective Practices Network. To obtain a copy of the tool visit: <http://www.nyec.org/EDStrategies.html>.

Choosing an Adolescent Literacy Program Isn't As Easy As ABC. This issue brief developed by the Alliance for Excellent Education provides criteria for choosing an adolescent literacy program and addresses critical questions that must be addressed when assessing literacy programs. For more information visit: http://www.all4ed.org/press/pr_060204.htm.

Career Academies, Impacts on Labor Market Outcomes and Educational Attainment.

This report describes how Career Academies influenced students' capacity to improve their labor market prospects and sustain their engagement in post-secondary education programs four years following the students' expected graduation. For more information visit: <http://www.mdrc.org/publications/366/overview.html>.

Still Young, Restless, and Jobless: The Growing Employment Malaise Among U.S. Teens and Young Adults. This report published by Jobs for America's Graduates, evaluates how key labor market factors have impacted job opportunities for the nation's teens and young adults. For more information visit: http://nyec.org/CLS&JAG_report.pdf.

Growing to Greatness: The State of Service Learning Project. This report developed by the National Youth Leadership Council provides preliminary findings on community service programs in public schools, research on K-12 service learning, profiles of service-learning in 18 states and other essay. For more information call (651) 631-3672 or visit: <http://www.nylc.org/objects/inaction/initiatives/2004G2G/2004G2GCompleteSurvey.pdf>.

Reengaging Disconnected Youth. This kit, the seventh in a series produced for municipal leaders by the Institute for Youth Education and Families, highlights steps that city officials can take to help young people who are not connected to school, work, or caring adults. For more information visit: <http://www.nlc.org/iyef>.

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Technical Assistance Update for April 23, 2004

Check Out These "Free Resources!"

Intersection is an electronic newsletter for and about workforce development system and working with youth with disabilities is available through the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth website at <http://www.intersectionnewsletter.org/intersection>. To sign up to receive Intersection visit: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/intersection/signup_form.php.

Amachi: Mentoring Children of Prisoners in Philadelphia. This report discusses the structure of the "Amachi" mentoring program and the expectations of success. For more information contact (215) 557-4400 or visit: <http://www.ppv.org>.

SafetyNet is a national database sponsored by MENTOR-National Mentoring Partnership that provides mentoring organizations with records of FBI fingerprint-based background checks to screen mentoring volunteers. SafetyNet is offering the opportunity to conduct free background checks during the month of July to mentoring programs. For more information visit: <http://www.mentoring.org/safetynet/> or call (703) 224-2202.

Websites

Office of Vocational Crimes Directory of Crime Services. This online database is designed to assist service providers and individuals locate nonemergency crime victim services in the United States and abroad. For more information visit: <http://ovc.ncjrs.org/findvictimservices/>.

National Youth Development Information Center operated by the National Collaboration for Youth. The premier resource for youth workers on the Internet has been revamped to provide more updated information in a much simpler layout and format. Links to funding, staffing and training opportunities are supplemented with connections to recent and archived research on youth development. To access the website visit: <http://www.nydic.org>.

Learning Disabilities Resource Community provides knowledge-building and communication tools for individuals and groups involved in the education of those with learning disabilities and to support research and development in associated fields. For more information visit: <http://www.ldrc.ca/about.php>.

The Reentry Resource Map. This website lists federal, state and local resources for reentry services. Service categories include employment, case management, education, and faith-based services. For more information, go to: <http://svori.nttac.org/resourcemap/>.

Selfgrowth.com website has articles, activities, links and a newsletter all deal with self-improvement. For more information visit: <http://www.selfgrowth.com/>.

Verizon Reads. This website houses resources to assist in addressing literacy inquiries, linking literacy providers to the general public via the internet, provide valuable information and encourage collaboration and sharing of resources. For more information visit: <http://www.lifesplaybook.com/>.

Calendar of Events

July 11-18. Sandstone, MN. Annual Youth Leadership Training. For more information contact: (651) 631-7361 or visit: <http://www.nylc.org>.

July 11-14. Claremont, CA. National Youth Leadership Conference. For more information contact: (614) 224-4506 or visit: <http://www.nylc.org>.

July 12-14. Louisville, KY. Implementing and Enhancing Youth Court Programs. For more information contact: (859) 244-8193 or e-mail: nycc@csq.org.

July 19-21. Washington, D.C. Annual Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation: Challenges of Evaluation Research. For more information contact (703) 684-5300 or visit: <http://www.ojp.usdol.gov/nij>.

July 22-24. Cleveland, OH. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Youth Summit. For more information contact: (301) 608-8098 or visit: <http://www.ncfy.com>.

July 19-21. San Antonio, TX. Workforce Innovations 2004. For more information visit: <http://www.workforceinnovations.org/>.

July 19-21. Washington, D.C. National Alliance to End Homelessness 2004 Annual Convention. For more information visit: <http://endhomelessness.org>.

July 24-27. Washington, DC. National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN) 2004 Conference, "Learning, Living, Leading: Youth with Disabilities Continuing the Legacy". For more information, go to: <http://www.nyln.org/apply/2004conference.html>.

July 25-27. Santa Fe, NM. Community Colleges as the Locus for Change: Meeting the Challenges of Technological and Marketplace Change. For more information visit: <http://www.crdnet.org>.

July 26-30. Washington, DC. 2004 Youth Career Skills Challenge. For more information contact Anne Stom at (202) 693-3377 or visit: <http://www.skillschallenge.org/>. **For Youth Opportunity Grantees Only.**

Youth Resource Connections. The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Office of Youth Services at (202) 693-3037 or e-mail youth.services@dol.gov.

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